HUSBAND CROOK, John William (historian)

Born 9 Apr 1858 Place Provo, Utah, Utah
Chr. 21 Jun=1858 Place Provo, Utah, Utah
Marr. 10 Nov 1886 Place Logan, Cache, Utah
Died 3 Nov 1950 Place Heber, Wstch, Utah
Bur. 5 Nov 1950 Place Heber Wstch, Utah

HUSBAND'S FATHER CROOK, John
HUSBAND'S MOTHER GILES, Mary
HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES

WIFE BOND, Sarah Elizabeth

Born 2 Mar 1866 Place Heber, Wstch, Utah
Chr. 5 Apr 1866 Place Heber, Wstch, Utah
Died 25 Mar 1936 Place Heber, Wstch, Utah
Bur. 28 Mar 1936 Place Heber, Wstch, Utah

WIFE'S FATHER BOND, Stephen Alexander
WIFE'S MOTHER CLARK, Sarah
WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS

Husband	CROOK, John William 1858
~~Wife~~	~~BOND, Sarah Elizabeth~~
Ward Examiners: 1.	
2.	
Stake or Mission	Wasatch

NAME & ADDRESS OF PERSON SUBMITTING RECORD
Jay T. Lyon
160 W. 3rd N.
Heber, Utah

FAMILY REPRESENTATIVE
LYON, (Mrs) Mabel Crook

RELATION OF F.R. TO HUSBAND: dau
RELATION OF F.R. TO WIFE: dau

TEMPLE ORDINANCE DATA

	BAPTIZED (DATE)	ENDOWED (DATE)	SEALED (Date & Temple) WIFE TO HUSBAND
HUSBAND	1866	10 Nov 1886	LG 10 Nov 1886
WIFE	1 Oct 1877	10 Nov 1886	SEALED (Date & Temple) CHILDREN TO PARENTS

SEX M F	CHILDREN List Each Child (Whether Living or Dead) in Order of Birth SURNAME (CAPITALIZED)	GIVEN NAMES	WHEN BORN DAY	MONTH	YEAR	WHERE BORN TOWN	COUNTY	STATE OR COUNTRY	DATE OF FIRST MARRIAGE / TO WHOM	WHEN DIED DAY	MONTH	YEAR	BAPTIZED (DATE)	ENDOWED (DATE)	SEALED (Date & Temple) CHILDREN TO PARENTS
1 M	CROOK	William Clark ✓	2	Apr	1888	Heber City	Wstch	Utah	1 Jul 1920 HEATON, Keziah	31	Jan	1964	16 Aug 1896	1 Jun 1920	BIC
2 F	CROOK,	Mabel	9	Sep	1889	Heber City	Wstch	Utah	12 Sep 1923 LYON, Archibald Thomas				28 Aug 1898	12 Sep 1923	BIC
3 M	CROOK,	Reno Giles	2	Aug	1891	Heber City	Wstch	Utah	June 1918 MADSON, Leola	1	Dec	1961	10 Sep 1899	June 1918	BIC
4 F	CROOK	Nellie Elizabeth	5	Jun	1897	Heber City	Wstch	Utah	8 Sep 1922 GREEN, Raymond	25	Dec	1929	1 Jul 1905	8 Sep 1922	
5 F	CROOK	Alice Mary	2	Jul	1899	Heber City	Wstch	Utah	3 Sep 1929 HOOVER, Glen				6 Jul 1907	25 May 1928	BIC
6 M	CROOK	Albert Bond	11	May	1901	Heber City	Wstch	Utah	31 Aug 1932 SNOW, Minnie	8	Mar	1954	5 Jun 1909	3 Jan 1928	BIC
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Family record of John W. Crook
in possisson of Clark J. Crook
RFD
Heber City, Utah

OTHER MARRIAGES

#6 Albert Bond md (2) 9 May 1945 CARLILE, Ella

NECESSARY EXPLANATIONS

NAMES: WATSON, John Henry
PLACES: Sharon, Windsr, Vrmn

ENTER ALL DATA IN THIS ORDER:
DATES: 14 Apr 1794
To indicate that a child is an ancestor of the family representative, place an "X" behind the number pertaining to that child.

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Wife	BOND, Sarah Elizabeth
Ward	1.
Examiners:	2.
Stake or Mission	Wasatch

NAME & ADDRE
Jay T. I
160 W.
Heber, U

FAMILY REPRE
LYON, M.
RELATION OF F
dau

BAPTIZED
HUSBAND
WIFE
1 Oct
16 Aug
28 Aug
10 Sep
1 Jul
6 Jul
5 Jun

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PLACES: Sharon, Wndsr, Vrmn
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John Wm. died November 3, 1950. Six children born to them.

John William Crook was born April 9, 1858, at Provo, Utah, to John and Mary Giles Crook. The following year the family moved to Provo Valley and located in Heber where he resided his entire life.

He was educated in the district schools, seldom having more than four or five months during the year. He attended the Brigham Young Academy the winter of 1879 to April 1880 and the winter of 1880 and '81. Due to his father's illness he could attend school no longer as planned.

He was a member of the first YMMIA organized in the valley in 1877 and a member of the Literary Society, joining in 1876.

He worked in the sawmill in Daniels Canyon, owned by his father and William Forman, who also owned the stone quarry business. He was one of the town's local theatrical players, playing one of the leads in some 15 plays. Although he was a mild, quiet, good natured man, the parts he played were the villain. He also gave readings and dialogues. 540

He married Sarah Elizabeth Bond, the daughter of Stephen A. and Sarah Clark Bond, November 10, 1886, in the Logan Temple, making the trip with wagon and horses. Lizzie (as she was called) was born in a log cabin across the street west of the north school, in Heber. Her father died when she was nine, leaving the mother with six children to support. Each child had to start work to help out, at an early age. She started working as a maid and mother's helper for 25 cents a week. When she was 12 her wages were raised to fifty cents a week.

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After the couple were married they spent the next years building a home, John making his own bricks by hand, and working in the rock quarry. When the Salt Lake Temple was dedicated they attended the dedication, soon after he was called to serve in the British mission. He left his good wife and three children to do for themselves while he labored in the New Castle Conference. Arriving in Liverpool, England, June 7, 1894. While in England he gathered genealogy of his family and opened ways for continuous work to be done.

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He served two terms on the city council, serving with James W. Clyde as mayor. At this time the Heber Power Plant was constructed. He served as director of the Wasatch Canal and on the committee for the Humbug Canal.

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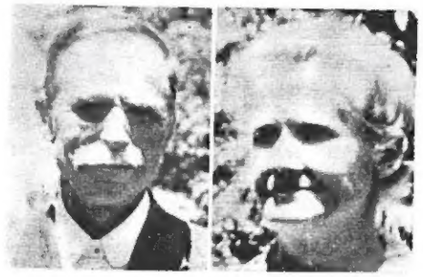
Their children are: William Clark, Mabel, Reno G., Nellie E., Alice M., Albert Bond.

CROOK, John William, a member of the Wasatch Stake High Council, was born April 9, 1858, at Provo, Utah county, Utah, the eldest child of John Crook and Mary Giles. The year after he was born his parents located in Provo Valley among the first settlers of Heber City. He attended the district schools in Heber City and, being born of goodly parents, he was raised in the fear and admonition of the Lord. Early in life he became identified with the Y. M. M. I. A. In 1877 (Aug. 19th) he was ordained a Teacher and during the years 1879-1881 he attended the Brigham Young Academy at Provo. During the following six years he spent most of his time in the canyons and at the sawmills. He was ordained an Elder in 1886 and a few days later (Nov. 10, 1886) he married Sarah E. Bond, by whom he has had six children. In 1890 (Nov. 2nd) he was ordained a Seventy and in 1893-1895 he filled a mission to Great Britain, laboring in the Newcastle and Manchester conferences. He also obtained a great deal of genealogy while on that mission. After his return home, he acted

as a Sunday school teacher, as a Ward clerk, and as an aid in the Sunday school Stake organization until he was chosen as an alternate member of the High Council Feb. 10, 1901. At the reorganization of the Wasatch Stake in 1906 (Aug. 12th) he was set apart as a regular member of the High Council, and in 1907 he was elected a member of the city council in Heber. Elder Crook is a farmer and stock-raiser by avocation; he is also in the stone business.

LDS Bio. Ency 2:113

JOHN WILLIAM CROOK



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ROYAL D. CROOK

Royal D. Crook was born in Heber City January 3, 1903, the son of Frederick Crook and Minnie M. Lindsay Crook. He grew up and attended the district school. Entered high school, graduated from there in 1922 as valedictorian of his class. The following summer he left for a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to South Africa, where he labored three years. After his release he toured Europe for one month. Shortly after returning home he entered the Utah State Agriculture College at Logan. He graduated from that institution in 1929 and received a scholarship to attend Cornell University.

Before leaving for this school he married the charming young school teacher, Miss Willmith Witt in the the Salt Lake Temple. She was the daughter of William Witt and Amelia Murdock Witt, and they went to New York on their honeymoon. They remained there until he graduated with a master of science degree in animal husbandry and farm management.

In 1933 they went to Ely, Nevada, to accept a position of County Agriculture Agent of Ely County. He was called from there in 1934 to be the county agent of Churchill and North Lyon Counties with headquarters in Fallon, Nevada. He held this position from 1934 to 1946. During this time he purchased a farm in that vicinity and from the time he left the office he has been farming. He has a good farm and a modern dairy.

He has been president of the Nevada Milk Producers Assn., president of the Churchill Company Agricultural Cooperative Assn. and many other things for the betterment of agriculture in that vicinity. With the help of his helpful and very efficient wife they have reared a family of seven children, six girls and one boy. Three of these girls have graduated from college. The eldest one is married and has three children. One has filled a mission for the LDS Church in Japan. Two of them, a boy and a girl, twins, are sophomores in college. The boy now has a call to fill a mission for the Church in China. The other two girls are progressing along the same lines. Royal has also been active in the Church. He was counselor to the bishop while living in Ely; superintendent of the Sunday School in Fallon in 1938; from 1940 to 1944 he was counselor to the bishop in Fallon. In 1944 was called to be the bishop of the Fallon Ward, a position he held from 1944 to 1956. In 1960, he was serving as a high councilman in Reno Stake.

His wife has also been very active in the Church, holding many positions, and at present is president of Relief Society. She has helped and encouraged him at all times.

H. CLAY CUMMINGS

When a small boy of three years of age H. Clay Cummings stood by the bed side of his grandmother, Sarah Cummings, a few days before she died. She put her hand on his head and said, "Bless you, honey, some day you will be the President." This virtually came to pass and started with a call to be bishop of the Heber Second Ward in 1926. Eighteen months later he became first counselor in the Presidency of Wasatch Stake and served for ten years.

which she never fully recovered. All through her suffering she was very patient.

Mary Jane Crook Duke died Monday, March 9, 1951, at her home, at the age of 65.

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Chapter Six

...And They Grew in Wisdom

Wilderness country and the bitter forces of nature were puny competitors to the will and determination of Provo Valley's pioneers.

Adversity, misfortune, grief—these were everyday words in Provo Valley. Yet, the "vision" of a better life inspired the early settlers to struggle and persevere against all odds. For many of the people the better life came only after years of toil and sorrow. For others it came in the assurance that their children would live better than they did.

To assure this better life for the new generation, the pioneer people were quick to establish schools in their new valley. Education in the one or two room log school houses was a far cry from the modern educational programs of today. However, it was a beginning and a firm foundation for later growth.

In the early schools, students sat on benches made of split logs supported by wooden legs inserted at a suitable angle in the logs to insure rigid support. They wrote on stone slabs and used damp cloths for erasers. The various grades, or readers as they were known, all met in the same room under the guidance of one teacher.

Tuition for the schools amounted to about $1.50 per term, which was paid either in cash or produce though most often the latter. Many attended only one term, consisting of about six weeks, since their help was needed on the farms and in the canyons.

The valley's first school was held in the joint community building erected for the July 24th Pioneer Day celebration in 1860. The structure, located on what is now the corner of 3rd North and 2nd West, served as a Church house, school building, dance hall and theatre.

Small schools were quickly developed in each of the communities that sprang up throughout the valley. Typical of the rudimentary education offered is a description given by Henry Van Wagoner in 1933 to Dorothy Holmes. He told of children of all ages in Midway filing into a little one room log school house to sit on slab benches while Simon Higgenbotham instructed them in reading, writing and arithmetic. Thirty students laid down their slates and Wilson readers and ran to nearby ditches for water.

As the valley grew there were 22 independent districts or schools established. Two were maintained in the Center-Lake Creek area, while two more were in Charleston—one near the mound now extending into the Deer Creek Reservoir and one in the upper area near the present Winterton ranches. Two schools were in the Daniel area, one in the

The Sleepy Hollow School, one of Heber's early school buildings.

upper section on the hill near the original James J. Howe ranch, and another in the valley below.

At least two separate schools were maintained in the Midway area, one in the upper and one in the lower settlements before the two joined to form the single Midway community.

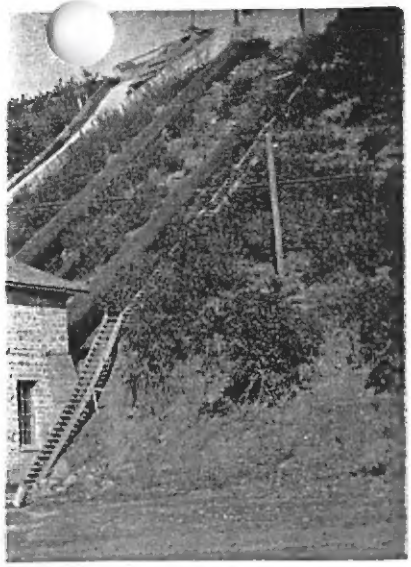
In the area north of Heber, three one-room schools were located, one at Riverdale on the corner just north of the Midway road and the intersection of U.S. Highway 40, another near Keetley where the Great Lakes Lumber operation later stood, and the third at Bench Creek above Woodland on the south side of the Provo River.

Wallsburg likewise had a school in the upper valley area known as "Rose Hill" and one on the grounds now occupied by the Wallsburg Ward Chapel.

In these early schools, young people with the ability to read, write and "figure" were used to teach some of the school subjects. John W. Crook, who like his father, John Crook, preserved much of the early history in personal journals, lists the following as some of these teachers:

William Chatwin, Henry Chatwin, C. B. Nugent, David L. Murdoch, Kezia Carroll, Mary Clyde Willis, Thomas Hicken, Jr., Samuel Wing, George Barzee, Margion G. and Charles Shelton, Henry Clegg, Henry Aird, Alfred T. Bond, William Buys, Josephine Cluff, Isabelle Todd Hicken and Heber Moulton.

Others mentioned in the journals who were "imported" or profes-



Plant erected in 1909.

09, the committee announced they
ing equipment. A Mr. Lund of
1909 to install the equipment at
me of installation. Laborers who
were paid 25 cents an hour or 50

vas appointed city electrician and
tion of wiring in homes through-

Heber, Midway and Charleston
tor which may have influenced
November, 1909 election. On
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mayor at the time. The project
l early in September, 1949, at a
ton and Hugo Price directed the

construction and engineering work, and Charles Bonner was the first plant operator. Mr. Bonner served at the plant until 1960 when Glen Horrocks succeeded him.

Through the years the Heber Light and Power plant has been a very successful venture, in spite of outside commercial competition. Total assets in 1958 were in excess of $500,000.

When Mayor Clyde began his second term in 1910 he had councilmen John E. Moulton, finishing a four-year term, David Fisher, Robert Duke, Richard Jones and J. W. Crook, two-year councilmen; Joseph A. Murdock, recorder and J. R. Price, treasurer.

Popularity continued with Mayor Clyde in the November, 1911 election, and he was re-elected for an unprecedented third term. John H. Hicken was elected as four-year councilman and John E. Moulton, Joseph A. Rasband, E. J. Duke and David Fisher won two-year council posts. Joseph A. Murdock continued as recorder with Lucinda Buys as treasurer and Fred L. Clegg as justice of the peace.

With the coming of Spring in 1913 Mayor Clyde and the council proposed that sidewalks between 4th North and 4th South Streets and along Center Street be paved. They also took steps to grade and gravel two blocks of roadway on Main Street during the summer.

John E. Moulton, who had served several previous terms on the council, was elected mayor in the November, 1913 election. Serving with him were John H. Hicken, hold-over councilman, Joseph A. Rasband, John H. Murdock and William Coleman, two-year councilmen; Joseph A. Murdock, recorder and Lucinda Buys, treasurer.

The Spring of 1914 brought a petition before the council signed by members of the Parents' Class in the Heber Third Ward requesting that a time be set apart as "Gravel Day." The Council apparently felt the need for such a project because it was moved and carried that three such days be set apart to give citizens an ample opportunity to bring gravel to their areas without getting in each other's way.

David A. Broadbent and Lavina Murdock also represented the same class of the other two Heber wards in presenting suggestions for the betterment and beautification of the city cemetery.

On February 3, 1915, the community was saddened by the death of Mayor Moulton. William Coleman was appointed acting head of the council and worked with merchants in the community to close their places of business as a tribute to the mayor on the day of the funeral services.

The council met on March 6, 1915 to consider candidates to replace the late Mayor Moulton, and after considerable discussion nominated Edward D. Clyde who was selected by unanimous vote.

An entry from the council meeting minutes of March 27, 1915, is indicative of the changing times. Originally the city had placed electric utility poles in the center of city streets. Now they had been petitioned by members of the Automobile Club to move the poles to the sides of the

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and the other half would don
The Indians would then race
the rest of the cast in sleighs or

white top wagons firing guns and waving a large banner "Theatre Tonight." Needless to say, the stunts usually drew a full house.

By 1873 the community badly needed the theatre building that had been started in 1862, and so efforts began anew to complete the building. However, a more central location was felt desirable, and so a site was secured near 145 North Main. The two stone walls that had previously been built were torn down and the materials used in the foundation of the new building. Work was finished in time for the winter season, and proceeds from five plays produced early in 1874 helped to defray costs of the building and some new scenery. The new building became known as the Heber Social Hall, and later was called the Old Hall.

Directing the new theatrical work in the Social Hall was a reorganized committee consisting of James Duke, president; John Crook, vice president; Charles N. Carroll, secretary; William H. Walker, musical director and Patrick Carroll, stage carpenter.

On January 13, 1874, the group produced "The Charcoal Burner," and "Bombastus Furico." January 27 the fare included "The Mistletoe Bough," and "Deaf as a Post." Produced on February 10 were "A Roland for an Oliver," and "The Toodles." Finally on March 10 they staged "The Rent Day," and "The Omnibus."

Some of the performers in these productions included James and John Duke, Charles N., Willard and Lottie Carroll, Sarah Murdoch, John Jordan, Thomas Hicken Jr., Joseph Cluff, William and Robert Lindsay, Annie R. Duke, Elizabeth Moulton Hicken, Emma Carlile, Alexander Fortie, John Galligher and Bessie Jordan.

Dramatic efforts in Heber were spearheaded by the Dramatic Association until October of 1884 when the group was dissolved and a new organization known as the Heber Dramatic Combination was formed. John Crook, Ira N. Jacobs, Alex Fortie, Henry Clegg and John W. Crook were officers of the group, which continued to use the old Social Hall for theatrical performances. A number of traveling companies passed through Heber during these years and made use of the theatre for performances. Fees at first were $6 for use of the hall and scenery, and later this was reduced to $5.

Because Heber audiences had taken advantage of dramatic and cultural events through the years the community became well known for appearances by traveling companies. Agents sought bookings in Heber because they knew the performances would be well received. Some of the more frequently appearing groups included the Courtney Morgan plays, the Moore-Ether Theatrical Company, the Great La Reno and the Ellison-White Chautauqua group who included Heber on their international circuit for many years.

One of the first projects of the officers of the new Combination was to add important new pieces of scenery to the Hall, including several scenes painted by W. C. Morris of Salt Lake City.

Some of the early Combination plays included "The Crock of Gold," and "Boots at the Swan" staged on December 22, 1884; "Ingomar" and "Raising the Wind" on January 7, 1884 and "On the Brink" and "The New Man" on January 29, 1884. Actors whose names appeared prominently in these performances included John Crook, F. W. Giles, Ira N. Jacobs, A. Y. Duke, George J. Harbour, Ralph Jacobs, H. M. Aird, Amelia Clegg, Minnie H. Averett, Fred Clegg, Clara Alexander, J. W. Crook, E. D. Clyde, Fred Crook, Sophia Clyde, Mary Ann Giles (Cummings) and M. A. Baird.

Other plays produced by the Combination in its first season, some of which were taken to Park City, Midway and even Provo, included "Michel Earl," and "Handy Andy."

Traveling at one time to Park City, the dramatic company proceeded around a steep mountain dugway only to have their sleigh slip off the road and tip over. Scenery, stage props and frightened actors were thrown in all directions. Luckily, no one was injured, and after they gathered themselves and the effects together, they proceeded on to a full house at Park City.

Once, during a performance in the Midway Town Hall, Livingston Montgomery was required by the script to disappear through a trap door in the stage floor. There was no such door in the floor of the Town Hall [illegible] Mr. Montgomery did the next best, and slipped out through a regular door. [illegible] floor he discovered that he was in the middle of a wintery night with below zero temperatures, with only a very light costume to cover him. To keep from freezing before he came back on stage near the end of the performance he began to dance a jig, and literally did a perpetual dance until the time came to re-enter. Needless to say, he chattered and shivered through the rest of the show.

The winter of 1887 was a particularly successful dramatic year, with many of the plays also presented in Provo. Some of the shows included "The Octoroom," "Warlock of the Glen," "Dutchman's Ghost," "The Lancashire Lass," and "Diamond in the Rough." Actors in these productions included H. M. Aird, George Cluff, J. W. Crook, Livingston Montgomery, Fred Clegg, George J. Harbour, R. O. Luke, J. E. Moulton, John T. Giles, Dan Baird, William Buys, Foster Cluff, Amelia Clegg, Pamelia Fortie, Millie Cluff, J A. Fortie, Emma Jeffs (Fortie), Heber Taylor and C. J. Wahlquist.

George Cluff was the leading participant in Heber dramatics from 1886 to 1890 and kept many activities going during those years.

The old Social Hall was remodeled about 1889 to provide better stage facilities and served until the early 1900's when it was sold to Mark Jeffs. Later, in 1903 it was used for meetings of the Heber Second Ward and continued as the ward chapel until 1914 when a new chapel was built by the ward.

Beginning about 1897, John Turner and his sons began building a

Turner Opera House

theatre and community building which became the center of social activities until the construction of the Heber Amusement Hall. The Turner Opera House, as it was known, built between 2nd and 3rd North Main, was constructed of brick and stone and featured a white maple dance floor. Brick for the building came from the Van Wagoner's lime and brick yard in Midway and sandstone was hauled from the John W. Crook quarry. Coal-oil lamps were hung from the ceiling, but were difficult to keep clean and filled, so they were later converted to carbide and then finally to electricity about 1909. Two large pot-belly coal stoves provided warmth in the winter. The large stage at the rear of the dance hall rose about three feet above the floor and featured a huge scenic drop curtain. The curtain scene depicted a family pulling a cart with a small donkey down a country lane. Mr. Turner provided many attractive pieces of scenery for groups who used the stage. Many of the panels were painted by Joseph Kirby, an artist from Wallsburg.

When the hall was to be used for dramatic productions, sawdust would be spread on the floor to protect the finish and some of the first folding chairs used in the valley were then set up. The first few rows were always sold as reserved seats at premium prices.

Traveling companies were booked at the Opera House, and when their performances were scheduled the people would dress in their best and make it a very special occasion. It was a common practice to carry a box of chocolates to enjoy with friends during the performance. Local performers would usually perform specialty acts during the performance while scenery was being changed.

John S. Lindsey and his family were a favorite traveling troupe with Heber audiences and always drew a large crowd. "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Ten Nights in a Bar Room," "East Lynn" and other popular plays of the day were brought to Heber by this group. Later, Luke Cosgrove married a Lindsey girl and also brought good plays to Heber. Mr. Cosgrove, also a favorite in the valley, later achieved movie fame in Hollywood.

Della Pringle, another traveling performer, brought her own scenery and band for performances in the Opera House. Before the show started the band would play on Main Street to attract a good crowd. Prof. A. C. Lund from Brigham Young University would also come to the Opera House to present plays and musicals.

While it was a popular theatre, the Opera House was perhaps most widely known as a dance hall. At 2nd North and Main the Turner Mercantile Store, an early business place, had been built years before and clubs such as the A.O.U.W. used meeting rooms on the upstairs floor. A large building just west of the store was built about the same time with a dance hall on the main floor and a planing mill for lumber in the basement. Later this building was used by the Mutual Creamery and still later was remodeled for a laundry business. This building is still standing.

The Heber Brass Band, shown here in a picture taken at an Old Folks celebration in 1883, was in demand at parties and events throughout the valley. Members of the band pictured here in the upper right of the picture include Roger Horrocks, Robert McKnight Sr., Thomas Perry, Alexander Fortie, Fred Clegg, Joseph A. Murdock and Dick Duke. This picture was taken in front of "Babe" Cummings' home.

Orchestra which included Ethel Watson, A. R. Duke, Arthur Olson, Clarence Murdock, Sylvia Kennah and Albin Hansen.

Music has also played an important role in the community at times of bereavement. Those with special vocal and instrumental talent who have given freely of their time and abilities to participate in funeral services have included Frank Epperson and Maybell Moulton, Roy Huffaker and Marjoria Provost, May Bonner, Nora Luke, Mary Lindsay and J. T. (Tom) Roberts and their accompanists Ethel Watson, Vera Rasband, ReNee Carlile and Merle Rasband.

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Clubs, both civic and social, have also played an important role in the culture of Heber City. Gregarious people of the valley early formed organizations that helped them mingle socially with one another, helped them improve their lives and aided in community betterment.

One of the first such groups to be formed was the Young Men's Literary Society, organized about 1876 at the suggestion of President Abram Hatch. The group's first president was J. S. Watson. Other charter members included A. C. and Joseph Hatch, Maron J. Shelton, Fred Rasband, John W. Crook, Lorenzo C. Giles, Willard Carroll, Rich-

add 236

Because the settlers in Center Creek depended upon farming for their livelihood, irrigation waters were of utmost importance. Some of the earliest community cooperative projects, as well as some of the disputes, transpired because of the need for irrigation water.

The first settlers in the area laid claim to the water in Center Creek and also some of the smaller streams nearby. This meant that new families coming into the area either had to get permission from the older residents to use the water, or look elsewhere for their irrigation needs. The new settlers felt that there was ample water for everyone if it were to be distributed fairly, but try as they would, they couldn't persuade the original settlers to give up much of it.

As a result, many meetings were held in an effort to solve the problem, and it was finally resolved that the newer settlers would go into Center Creek Canyon and look for sites where reservoirs could be built to hold water that was just going to waste. They located and staked out six reservoir sites, and began the task of building the dams. However, the struggles were still not ended because the early settlers then attempted to stop them from filling the dams. Many lively meetings ensued before it was finally decided to organize a reservoir company in 1879 and subsequently the Center Creek Irrigation and Water Company in 1887. Now 72 years later these two companies were consolidated in 1962.

With the organization of the Irrigation Company, the settlement of disputes was left up to the officers and directors, who attempted to be as fair as possible. William Richardson Sr. was the first president of the company. Other officers were Parley Murdock, Archibald Sellers and George Hyrum Sweat.

While the community of Center Creek was growing, another community about two miles north of Center began to develop. This was known as Lake Creek, and began about 1877. Robert Lindsay and his wife Sarah Ann, and William Lindsay and his wife Mary, had been living in Heber, but decided to look around for a site where they might establish more permanent homes. They finally decided on a site three miles east of Heber, near a spring, and in 1877 moved from Heber to begin farming the rich soil.

They built log homes and lived close together until about 1883 when they decided it would be much easier to work the farm land if one family lived in the upper section. They drew lots to see who would move, and Robert got the "cut" to move. He built a two-room log house and later a large, two-story home for his family.

As these men found success in farming the Lake Creek land, others soon began to take up homesteads in the area. Some of these homesteaders included Bengt Peterson, James Nash, William Murdoch Sr., William Baird Sr. and John W. Crook.

An excellent sandstone quarry was developed on property owned by John Crook and Herbert Clegg. The stone was used to build many of

Lake Crk
Robert &
Wm
Lindsay Jr

A home built from red sandstone by Thomas Phillips in the early days of the Lake Creek area. This photograph was taken of the home in 1910.

the homes in Center Creek, Lake Creek, Heber and even in Salt Lake City. Some of the buildings constructed of the stone were the Stake House and County Court House, the jail and the Central and North Schools, all in Heber. The sand stone was also used for sidewalks and for lining graves.

Lake Creek settlers also had their irrigation water problems as the population began to grow, and on May 2, 1888 the farmers of the area met to formulate plans for an irrigation company. An organizing committee was formed with Robert Broadhead as chairman and Robert Clegg as secretary. By July 6, 1888 the company organization was ready and Mr. Broadhead was elected as the first president. William Lindsay was named secretary with Henry Chatwin as treasurer and John Lee and Henry Clegg as directors.

First stockholders in the company were Henry Clegg, Robert Broadhead, John Lee, Henry Chatwin, James Nash, Elizabeth Nash, a Mrs. Phillips, John Baird, William Baird, James Baird, Robert and William Lindsay, Milton and William Murdoch, Orson Lee, Abram Hatch, Bengt Peterson, Mrs. Elisha Jones, Richard Jones, Thomas Campbell, William Blake, Mrs. William Cole, Eric Erickson, William Priestly, John Lloyd, Nels and Ludwig Anderson, Thomas and William Clegg, William Davis, Rasmus Miller, Rasmus Anderson and Charles W. Giles.

For several years the Lake Creek settlement continued, and separate school and church organizations were developed. However, it was gradually assimilated into the Center Creek development and became part of that community.

Industry in Center Creek has largely centered around farming. However, one of the first sawmills in the valley was constructed in Center Creek Canyon by Henry McMullin, William M. Wall and James Adams.

A general store was opened by William Baxter, who also operated a creamery. He bought milk from the farmers, made it into butter and